

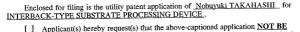
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

## Box PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:



PUBLISHED under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.211. The undersigned hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. [ ] Applicant(s) suggest(s) Figure \_ for inclusion on the front page of the patent application publication and patent. Also enclosed are: [X] 10 sheet(s) of [X] formal [ ] informal drawing(s); [X] a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and/or 365 is [X] hereby made to 2000-399444 filed in Japan on 27 December 2000; [X] in the declaration; [X] a certified copy of the priority document; [ ] a General Authorization for Petitions for Extensions of Time and Payment of Fees; [X] an Assignment document; [ ] an Information Disclosure Statement; [ ] a patent application data sheet; and [ ] Other: \_ [X] An [X] executed [ ] unexecuted declaration of the inventor(s) [X ] also is enclosed [ ] will follow. [ ] Small entity status is hereby claimed.



[X] The filing fee has been calculated as follows [X] and in accordance with the enclosed

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
 --This application is a continuation of International Application No. \_ filed on \_, which International Application [] was [] was not published by the International

Bureau in English on .--.

preliminary amendment:

	No. OF CLAIMS	the state of the s	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Basic Application Fee					\$740.00 (101)
Total Claims	15	MINUS 20 =	0	× \$18.00 (103) =	
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	0	× \$84.00 (102) =	
If multiple dependent cla	ims are pres	ented, add \$280.00	(104)		
Total Application Fee					\$740.00
If small entity status is c	laimed, subtr	act 50% of Total A	pplication Fe	e	
Add Assignment Recording Fee \$40.00 (581) if Assignment document is enclosed					\$40.00

[ ]	This application is being filed without a filing fee.	Issuance of a Notice to File Missing
	Parts of Application is respectfully requested.	

- [X] A check in the amount of \$ 780.00 is enclosed for the fee due.
- [ ] Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Please address all correspondence concerning the present application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 17, 2001

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